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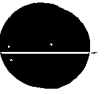
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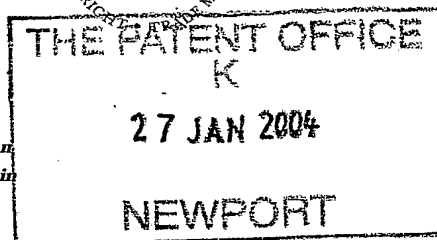
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BH/P1369

2. Patent application number

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0401682.0

3. Full name, address and postcode of the or of each applicant (*underline all surnames*)

Shaun Hume
6 Barnfield
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Patents ADP number (*if you know it*)

If the applicant is a corporate body, give the country/state of its incorporation

8107740002

4. Title of the invention

CONTAINER

5. Name of your agent (*if you have one*)

"Address for service" in the United Kingdom to which all correspondence should be sent (*including the postcode*)

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Patents ADP number (*if you know it*)

06934673001 ✓

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Continuation sheets of this form

Description

3

Claim(s)

-

Abstract

-

Drawing(s)

1 + 18

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Priority documents

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Brian P. Hughes

Date

26/1/04

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Brian P. Hughes 01580 713002

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CONTAINER

5 This invention is concerned with a container, and in particular with a container that is sufficiently light to be used by children as a lunch box or to carry to school materials for school or playthings.

10 The present invention is a container comprising a hollow tubular body, closed at one end and open at the other, and a platform in the body gimbal mounted to remain horizontal irrespective of the orientation of the body.

15 Preferably the gimbal on which the body is mounted comprises an outer gimbal ring pivotally mounted on the inner surface of the body and an inner gimbal ring pivotally mounted on the outer gimbal, the pivot axes being mutually perpendicular and the platform being mounted on the inner gimbal ring.

 The platform may be mounted beneath the inner ring and by a peripheral wall.

20 The platform may have a bias weight secured thereto.

 Preferably the body is barrel shaped.

 A flexible strap or handle may be secured to the body at its closed end.

25

 A rigid handle may be pivotally mounted on the body at its closed end..

An embodiment of the present invention will now be described by way of example
5 with reference to the accompanying drawing, the single figure of which diagrammatically illustrates a container according to the present invention.

Referring now to the drawing, a container 10 has a barrel shaped body 12 in which is located a gimbal mounted platform 14. In the drawing the container 10 is shown tilted so that
10 some details of it are visible. The body 12 is, in this embodiment, a section of a sphere is closed at one end 16 and is open at the other end 18, and at both ends a peripheral lip 20 is provided.

The gimbal on which the platform 14 is mounted comprises outer and inner gimbal
15 rings 24 and 26, the outer ring 24 being pivotally mounted on lugs 28 on the inner surface of the body 12 and the inner ring being mounted on lugs 30 on the inner surface of the outer ring 24. The respective axes of the lugs 28 and 30 are mutually perpendicular and the axis of the lugs 28 is, in this embodiment parallel to the ends . The platform 14 in this embodiment is circular and is located beneath the inner ring 26. The platform 14 is secured to the inner ring
20 by a peripheral wall 34 which is curved in section to match the curve of the body 12.

The centre of gravity of the combined platform 14 and wall 34 is below the inner ring 26, but if they are made of a light material, for example a plastics material, it may be desirable to add a weight to the platform to bias it to a horizontal position.

25

A flexible strap 40 is secured to the outer surface of the body at its closed end to function as

a handle or a shoulder strap.

5

In use the platform 14 remains horizontal at all times. When the container is being carried by the strap the closed end is uppermost and anything on the platform is effectively in a closed container. To access the contents the container is inverted so that the open end is uppermost, the platform remains horizontal because of the gimbal mounting and the contents
10 can then be removed through the open end,

The embodiment described may be modified, for example by substituting for the strap a rigid handle which is pivotally mounted on the outer surface of the body adjacent the closed end.

15





